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Friday, November 7, 2003
8 pm. Walter Hall

University of Toronto
Faculty of Music
Faculty Artist Series
Presents

Kiyoshi Nagata Ensemble

Retrospect: An evening of the Ensemble's signature works

Performers

Kiyoshi Nagata, artistic director
Paolo Pietropaolo
Meiko Lydall
Katarina Kin
Heidi Chan
Aki Takahashi

PROGRAMME

Taichi no Sakebi (Shouting Earth)
Music for Chappa
Araumi (Stormy Sea)
Nebuta Daiko
Akikaze (Autumn Wind)
Koku (Empty Sky)

- INTERMISSION -

Harukoma (Spring Horses)
Music for Uchiwa Daiko (Fan Drums)
Tenkai
Gokan (Five Senses)
Miyake/Ogi Matsuri Daiko (traditional)

A portion of the ticket revenues from the Faculty Artist Series will be used
to fund student awards at the Faculty of Music

The photographing, sound recording, or videotaping of this performance without the
written permission of the Faculty of Music is strictly prohibited.

We kindly request that you switch off your cellular phones, pagers, watch beepers, and any
other electronic devices that could emit a potentially unwelcome sound.

Programme Notes

Tonight's program is approximately 90 minutes in length plus intermission.

All music composed by Kiyoshi Nagata except where indicated.

Taichi no Sakebi (Shouting Earth)

— from the CD 'Koku'

This piece is about the unpredictable and sometimes violent moods of mother earth.

Music for Chappa

The *chappa* are a pair of small brass hand cymbals used in festivals and for Shinto ritual dance accompaniment. In recent years, many new techniques have been developed for the *chappa* allowing it to be played as a solo instrument with greater freedom of movement and expression for the player.

Araumi (Stormy Sea)

— from the CD 'Koku'

A haunting flute melody accompanied by the O-Daiko drum and a small Buddhist bell begins this piece representing the calm before the storm. The frantic playing of the high-pitched *shime daiko*, punctuated by the deep drumbeats of the barrel-shaped *miya daiko* portrays the stormy sea in full force.

Nebuta Daiko

This style of drumming, where the taiko is worn around the player's shoulder, originates from the Nebuta Festival held in Aomori Prefecture every August. The festival features a series of nighttime parades of enormous paper floats lit from within, depicting legendary figures. The heads of *nebuta taiko* are made from horsehide instead of the typical cowhide, producing a sharper and dryer sound.

Akikaze (Autumn Wind)

— from the CD 'Tenkai'

Every year across Japan, hundreds of festivals or 'matsuri' are held in honour of the autumn harvest season. This piece was inspired by the vivid images of dancing leaves in the swirling winds during these spirited and colourful festivals.

Koku (Empty Sky)

— from the CD 'Koku'

This piece features a solo on the ensemble's largest drum, the O-Daiko. While the first half is composed, the second half is completely improvised, allowing the drummer to play freely and unbounded.

- INTERMISSION -

Harukoma (Spring Horses)

During the early winters of Japan, many horses are born and are kept indoors until after New Years. When they take their first steps outdoors, the young horses run wildly about the fields until springtime. This is considered a good omen.

Music for Uchiwa Daiko

Uchiwa Daiko (literally 'fan drum') is a single headed drum attached to a long wooden handle. They are used principally to accompany chanting in the Nichiren sect of Buddhism. This composition explores the limitless possibilities of the uchiwa daiko using a variety of playing techniques and interlocking rhythms.

Tenkai – *from the CD 'Tenkai'*
'Tenkai' has two meanings depending on the Japanese character used. The first interpretation means to 'progress' or 'evolve'. The second meaning translates to the 'heavens'.

Gokan (Five Senses)

– *from the CD 'Koku'*

This piece features five individual solos on the shime daiko, chappa, miya daiko, nebuta daiko and O-Daiko respectively.

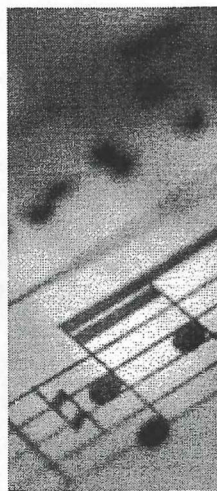
Miyake/Ogi Matsuri Daiko, traditional

This piece is the combination of two traditional songs. The chorus, played at the beginning, middle and end of the piece, comes from Miyake Island, one of the Seven Islands of Izu. The individual solos come from the town of Ogi, located on the southern tip of Sado Island in Niigata Prefecture. The local villagers play this festival piece throughout Ogi Village every August on taiko placed horizontally on large mobile carts.



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Kenneth Peacock was a distinguished alumnus of the University of Toronto's Faculty of Music. His body of work, as a composer and researcher for half a century, has made a significant impact on musical life in Canada. The Faculty of Music was very grateful to learn that Mr. Peacock had made a bequest to the University of Toronto in his will for the benefit of our music programs. With this legacy gift, the Faculty of Music will establish the Kenneth H. Peacock Lecture Series in Music in keeping with his lifelong interest in and contribution to the multi-dimensional study of music. Thank you Mr. Peacock.

For more information on Planned Giving please contact the Development Office of the Faculty of Music by calling 416-946-3145.

About the Ensemble

The Kiyoshi Nagata Ensemble has been thrilling audiences over the last six years with its thrilling and hypnotic performances of the traditional Japanese drum, *taiko*. Under the direction of Kiyoshi Nagata, a taiko performer of twenty years, the group strives to create challenging and dynamic works that seek to create a new voice for this ancient instrument. The group has become recognized for its exacting yet physical performances on the taiko as well as for its broad repertoire.

The Kiyoshi Nagata Ensemble is one of only a few groups in North America that owns and performs on a complete set of authentic taiko imported from Japan. It is the only group sponsored by four major taiko manufacturers in Japan.

Upcoming Performances

Friday, November 14, Brigantine Room, Harbourfront Centre, 8:00 pm
"Explorations: *An evening of new works and collaborations*"

A full concert with guest percussionist **Patrick Graham** (Montreal) and shamisen player/vocalist **Aki Takahashi** (Japan/Canada).

Tickets: \$20 adults, \$15 seniors/
students.

Harbourfront Centre Box Office (416)
973-4000 open Tues to Sat (1:00 pm to
8:00 pm).

For more information on the Kiyoshi
Nagata Ensemble, visit:
www.kiyoshinagata.com



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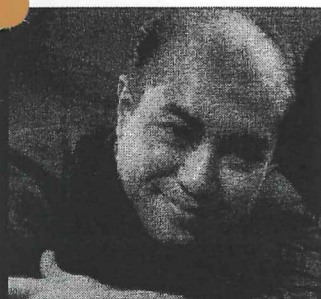
Monday, 17 November 2003

7 pm. Walter Hall

Edward Johnson Building, 80 Queen's Park
\$21 (\$11 students/seniors)

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Faculty Artist Series



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